

Projects delayed for Implementation

*667. SHRIVILASRAONAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the projects sent for approval by the States are extraordinarily delayed as a result of which the cost/budget thereof goes up to a great extent and several other difficulties also crop up;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposed to issue directives to various institutions/Ministries to avoid such delays; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No, Sir. The techno-economic clearance to power projects gets delayed because the feasibility reports for projects sent by various State Electricity Boards/Utilities do not incorporate various inputs/clearances required for techno-economic appraisal by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA). Further, techno-economic clearance and investment approval depends upon several factors including the comprehensiveness of the project report received from the project authorities, time taken by the project authorities in replying to various comments/observations by the Central Electricity Authority and/or Central Water Commission, availability of various inputs and clearances such as fuel availability, transportation of coal, gas, port facilities, water availability, clearance from Environment and Forest angles, constraints of funds etc.

(b) and (c). CEA had in 1978 issued guidelines for the preparation of feasibility reports for power projects to various State Electricity Boards/Utilities. The Government tries its best to ensure expeditious clearance

of power projects. ,

Ongoing Irrigation Projects

*668. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA: SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHURY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have sent any team to review the progress of ongoing irrigation projects in Gujarat and Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the team has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(e) the action being taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

[English]

Sorting Machines

*669. SHRI G. MADE GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mechanical sorting machines installed in various post offices in the country and the cost thereof;

(b) the number of machines proposed to be installed during 1992-93 in the country;

(c) the number out of them to be installed in Karnataka;

(d) whether such machines have been installed at GPO, Bangalore; and

(e) if not, when these are likely to be installed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Nil.

(b) The draft 8th Five Year Plan envisages installation of six such machines out of which two are slated for the year 1992-93. Orders are one such machine, to be installed at Bombay, were placed last year, which is also materialising this year.

(c) Nil.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Bangalore has been projected as one of the metro cities for installation of mechanised sorting machine in the Department's 8th Plan proposals.

[*Translation*]

Investment by NRIs for development of Tourism

*670. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request from non-resident Indians/institutions has been received by the Union Government for allowing investment for development of tourism in Kumaon region of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any scheme under consideration to attract more non-resident Indians for the development of tourism in this region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO

SCINDIA): (a) and (b). No specific proposals have been received in the Ministry of Tourism from Non-Resident Indians for allowing investment for development of tourism in Kumaon region of Uttar Pradesh.

(c) and (d). With a view to attract foreign investment in the country, Non Resident Indians and Overseas Corporate Bodies (OCB's) predominantly owned by Non Resident Indians are permitted to invest up to 100% in hotels and tourism related industry with full benefits of repatriation of the capital invested and income accruing thereon. Automatic approvals are available for such investment with in specified parameters.

[*English*]

Super Thermal Power Projects

*671. SHRIMATA RITA VERMA:
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H.
TOPIWALA:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up super thermal power projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated cost of each of the project; and

(d) the time by which each of these projects is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). The details of the proposals cleared by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for setting up Super Thermal Power Projects to be executed by National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) in the Central Sector are as follows:-